

-2-

Katagiri *et al.*  
Application No. 09/770,509

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of identifying compounds having antimicrobial activity comprising:
  - a) combining ~~a polypeptide having substantial similarity to at least a portion of~~ an oomycete FtsZ-mt protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and a compound to be tested for an ability to bind to said polypeptide, under conditions conducive to binding,
  - b) selecting a compound of step (a) that is capable of binding to said polypeptide,
  - c) applying a compound of step (b) to a microbe to test for antimicrobial activity, and
  - d) selecting a compound of step (c) having antimicrobial activity.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is encoded by an isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence ~~which is substantially similar or identical to at least a portion of~~ the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
- 3-8. (canceled)
9. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the microbe is an oomycete.
10. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the oomycete is *Phytophthora infestans*.
11. (canceled)
12. (currently amended) A method of identifying an inhibitor of FtsZ-mt activity having antimicrobial activity comprising:
  - a) combining a polypeptide having ~~substantial similarity to at least a portion of~~ an oomycete FtsZ-mt protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and a compound to be tested for an ability to inhibit an activity of said FtsZ-mt protein, under conditions conducive to such inhibition,
  - b) selecting a compound of step (a) that is capable of inhibiting said FtsZ-mt activity,
  - c) applying a compound of step (b) to a microbe to test for antimicrobial activity, and
  - d) selecting a compound of step (c) having antimicrobial activity.
13. (currently amended) The method of claims 12, wherein said polypeptide is encoded by an isolated DNA molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is ~~substantially similar or identical to at least a portion of~~ the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 14-19. (canceled)

-3-

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- 20. (original ) The method of claim 12, wherein the microbe is an oomycete.
- 21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the oomycete is *Phytophthora infestans*.
- 22-51. (canceled)